

HAZELNUTS  
And  
HAZELNUT PRODUCTS

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# HAZELNUT

Today the consumption of nuts has become an essential part of healthy consumption.

Hazelnut is mainly consumed as a major raw material in chocolate, confectionery and baking industries and as an ingredient in edible nut mixes.

Turkey is internationally renowned for its high quality hazelnuts. With respect to production and export of hazelnut, Turkey is the most important country in the world.

Hazelnuts are known as a rich source of energy, protein, essential fatty acids, vitamins and minerals and they do not contain cholesterol. Because of these features, hazelnuts are highly recommended by scientists for everyone.

A handful of hazelnuts a day;

- Gives energy,
- Reduces cholesterol,
- Regulates metabolic activities,
- Helps to prevent diabetes, heart diseases, embolism and hypertension,
- Nourishes and beautifies the skin,
- Provides an important supplement to dietary treatment.

In short, it would be fair to say that hazelnuts are a vital nutrient and supplement in a balanced daily diet.

Turkey is the most important country of origin for hazelnuts in the world. Very few countries in the world have a climate as favorable for hazelnut production as that of Turkey.

Historic documents reveal that hazelnuts have been grown along the Black Sea coast in northern Turkey since 300 BC. Hazelnut farming has been the chief form of livelihood in the region for centuries—as it still is. It is estimated that more than 4 million inhabitants of Turkey depend directly upon the production, marketing or processing of this product.

## Production

In Turkey, hazelnuts are cultivated in an area of around 350,000 ha. The production area is spread densely all along the Black Sea coast. Hazelnut orchards extend up to 30 Km (18 Miles) in land. The average annual hazelnut production during the past five years in Turkey has been approximately 497,000 tons in-shell. With its outstanding position, Turkey leads the field among hazelnut producing countries. Turkey realizes almost 70-75 percent of the world's hazelnut crop.

### Turkish Hazelnut Production (In-Shell) By Years (Tons)

2001	625 000
2002	600 000
2003	480 000
2004	350 000
2005	530 000
2006	661 000
2007	530 000
2008	1001 100
2009	660 000*

\* = estimated

Source: State Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, State Planning Organization

### Turkish Hazelnut Production by Major Provinces (Tons)

Province	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ordu	188.060	140.300	210.583	91.758
Sakarya	113.988	88.295	115.262	84.012
Giresun	86.723	64.131	139.764	76.273
Düzce and Bolu	78.493	71.213	90.972	72.689
Samsun	79.412	37.714	115.706	71.656
Trabzon	55.006	42.491	74.307	36.307
Zonguldak	23.109	21.457	24.736	24.079
Kocaeli	12.342	14.659	13.595	14.409
Artvin	7.240	7.821	8.350	11.572
Kastamonu	5.895	4.519	5.396	4.721
Bartın	2.166	3.082	2.852	3.455
Rize	1.415	1.322	1.408	2.147
Sinop	1.322	1.758	1.615	1.847

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs

Turkish hazelnuts are classified as Giresun or Levant quality and they are divided into two groups as round and pointed according to their shape and aromatic properties.

## Exports

Hazelnuts have been exported from Turkey to other countries for the last six centuries. In the 1950's the hazelnut was the "leader" in Turkey's foreign currency earnings followed by cotton, sultanas and figs. Today, revenues from hazelnut exports are still at significant level.

Turkey is the largest exporter of hazelnuts, supplying about 80 percent of the world's hazelnut exports. Being the largest producer and exporter, Turkey naturally plays an important role in determining world hazelnut prices.

Until recently, Turkish hazelnuts were exported only as natural kernels. During the past 20 to 25 years hazelnut processing plants have been built and since then various forms of processed hazelnuts have begun to be exported as well. As a result, the market share of processed kernels has been growing steadily and is now about 43 percent of total hazelnut exports. However, new investments have also been carried out by Turkish exporters, some of which are joint-ventures. Today shelled hazelnuts and processed kernels constitute 99 percent of total Turkish hazelnut exports.

### Turkish Hazelnut Exports (Including Processed Kernels) By Year, in 000 \$ U.S.

Year	Quantity (Tons)	Value (000 \$)
1993	198 044	559 863
1994	200 602	716 608
1995	244 719	770 405
1996	193 533	608 096
1997	190 170	871 531
1998	193 376	834 481
1999	176 117	668 845
2000	169 266	570 275
2001	244 694	703 408
2002	247 478	572 669
2003	223 261	642 514
2004	217 878	1 188 109
2005	210 013	1 919 991
2006	247 381	1 456 197
2007	236 104	1 509 622
2008	232 625	1 427 623
2009	224.436	1.184.159

*Source: Turkish Statistical Institute*

Turkey, who exported mainly shelled and kernel forms to 32 countries before 1980, now exports hazelnuts and the various processed forms of hazelnuts to over 75 countries. The majority of exports, above 80% of total exports, are shipped to countries of the European Union. Germany is the leading importer of processed and unprocessed Turkish hazelnuts with a share of 27 percent of the total, followed by Italy, France, Belgium, Switzerland,

Russian Federation, Austria, the Netherlands, Ukraine and U.K. Far East, Latin American and Scandinavian Countries have emerged as potential markets for Turkish hazelnut.

Major Export Markets of Turkish Hazelnuts and Hazelnut Products  
With Respect to Years (in U.S. Dollars)

Country	2007	2008	2009
ITALY	363.683.152	288.999.881	285.917.425
GERMANY	374.482.068	382.825.923	277.087.549
FRANCE	153.632.896	103.276.574	99.630.132
SWITZERLAND	57.123.781	59.540.054	47.740.764
BELGIUM	58.938.289	71.900.579	45.768.240
AUSTRIA	47.740.874	49.104.768	41.810.214
POLAND	53.585.894	31.931.383	35.981.085
THE NETHERLANDS	52.017.564	42.943.922	35.026.884
RUSSIAN FED.	50.881.636	54.077.150	30.696.943
UKRAINE	30.401.755	39.792.022	30.303.905
U.K.	37.362.084	33.380.978	27.040.440
CANADA	9.386.523	13.741.561	21.685.056
SPAIN	29.625.258	28.697.237	20.706.485
EGYPT	15.564.563	17.927.180	17.533.682
U.S.A.	29.144.621	31.544.101	17.203.282
GREECE	15.229.351	16.104.933	14.204.038
BRAZIL	7.923.362	8.270.712	11.708.043
AUSTRIAIA	11.043.799	10.782.887	10.048.927
SWEDEN	9.418.536	11.091.609	8.624.524
TUNISIA	5.008.654	6.978.394	7.585.249
ISRAEL	7.381.304	9.670.865	7.313.577
CHINA	5.056.139	6.576.733	6.095.141
TOTAL (OTHERS INCLUDED)	1.509.622.343	1.427.622.521	1.184.158.841

*Source: Turkish Statistical Institute*